

**In the Specification:** (strikethrough parts deleted and underlined parts added)

**On page 12, last paragraph, please enter the following changes:**

As shown in Figures 3 through 7, the first step within the manufacturing process is to mold an elongate body **20** having a relatively straight structure when compared to the final manipulated ski structure. The elongate body **20** is preferably comprised of a resilient and flexible material such as but not limited to ultra high molecular weight (UHMW) polyethylene (plastic). It can be appreciated that various other types of resilient and flexible materials may be utilized to construct the elongate body **20**. Furthermore, the elongate body **20** may be created utilizing various molding processes such as but not limited to injection molding. Once the elongate body **20** has solidified, the elongate body **20** is removed from the respective mold by various conventional removal means.

**In the Claims:** (strikethrough parts deleted and underlined parts added)

**Please cancel Claim 8 without prejudice.**

1. (Original) A method of manufacturing a ski, comprising the steps of:
  - (a) molding an elongate body comprised of a resilient material having a front portion having a front end, a middle portion, and a rear portion having a rear end, wherein said elongate body has a longitudinal axis extending from said rear portion to said middle portion and wherein said front portion has an initial position P1 which has an initial angle with respect to said longitudinal axis;
  - (b) removing said elongate body from a mold utilized for molding said elongate body;
  - (c) applying a bending force to said front portion of said elongate body thereby manipulating said front portion into a bowed structure having an intermediary position P2 which has an intermediary angle with respect to initial position P1;
  - (d) securing a preload member having a first end and a second end to said middle portion and to said front portion of said elongate body respectively, wherein said preload member is comprised of a resilient material and resilient structure; and
  - (e) allowing said front portion to return to a final position P3 which has a final angle with respect to said initial position P1.